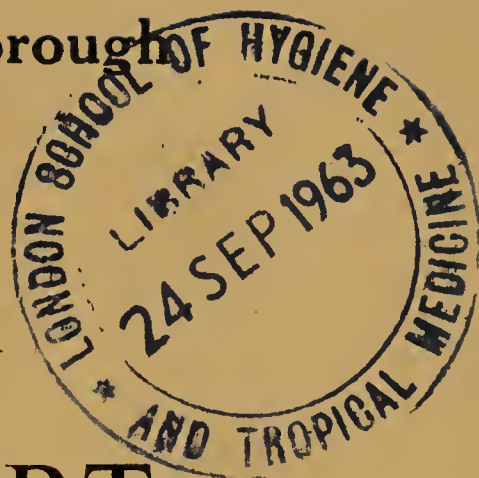


County of the Soke of Peterborough



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1961

G. NISBET, M.B., Ch.B.(Ed.), D.P.H., R.C.S.(Ed.)

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COUNTY OF THE SOKE OF PETERBOROUGH

MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As constituted 30th April, 1961)

COUNTY ALDERMAN Dr. J. HUNT

(Chairman of the County Council)

COUNTY ALDERMAN A. COLLINSON

(Vice-Chairman of the County Council)

(*ex-officio*)

Chairman :—

COUNTY COUNCILLOR C. GREENWOOD

Vice-Chairman :

COUNTY ALDERMAN P. ADAMS

COUNTY ALDERMAN MRS. M. C. COOK

COUNTY ALDERMAN MRS. A. PHILPOT

COUNTY ALDERMAN W. YOUNG

County Councillors :—

G. W. S. BURDETT

Mrs. E. H. FEAR

S. G. GASCOINE

G. MATTHEWS

Mrs. E. L. SAVAGE

G. TAYLOR

DR. H. M. WEAVER

Co-opted Members :—

Miss M. E. PERCIVAL

J. N. STATON, L.D.S., R.C.S. (ENG.)

Dr. D. F. TIERNEY

Dr. A. N. WALKER

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF—1961

County Medical Officer of Health :—

GEORGE NISBET, M.B., CH.B. (ED), D.P.H., R.C.S. (ED).

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health :—

WILLIAM GIBB SMEATON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. Barrister-at-law

Assistant Medical Officer of Health :—

DIANA O. McKNIGHT, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.P.H.

*Superintendent Nursing Officer
Health Visitors*

Miss I. Sylvester, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.CERT.
Miss F. Coles, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. CERT.
Miss M. Gerrard, S.R.N., H.V. CERT.
Mrs. P. Proctor, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. CERT.
Miss M. Julyan, S.R.N., S.R.C.N., H.V. CERT.
Miss D. A. Aplin, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.CERT
Mrs. M. Parson, S.R.N., S.C.M.,
(Resigned 18.8.61) H.V. CERT.

Student Health Visitor

Miss B. Egan, S.R.N. (Commenced 14th
March, 1961).

Tuberculosis Health Visitor

Mrs. M. Gorton, S.R.N.

Home Help Organiser

Mrs. I. Winham

*Assistant Home Help Organiser
(part-time)*

Mrs. M. Riddington

Home Teacher for the Blind

Miss D. E. Elkington

Administrative Assistant

Mr. J. J. Dunford

*Senior Social Welfare Officer and
Mental Health Officer*

Mr. G. Smith

*Assistant Social Welfare Officer
and Mental Health Officer*

Mr. J. W. Pettit

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

<i>District</i>	<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	<i>Public Health Inspector</i>
City of Peterborough	W. G. Smeaton, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. Barrister-at-law	J. Hall, M.S.I.A., CERT. R. SAN. I., A.M.I. SAN. E.
Peterborough Rural District	Diana O. McKnight, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.P.H.	M. R. Gibbs, A.R., SAN. I. M.S.I.A.
Barnack Rural District		D. W. Griffiths M.S.I.A., A.R. SAN.I.

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE SOKE OF PETERBOROUGH

To : The Chairman and Members of the County Council of the Soke of Peterborough.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health Services for the year 1961, this being my fourteenth such Report.

Population

The estimated population for mid-1961, as given by the Registrar-General is 75,880, which is an increase of 5,840 since mid-1960. There must have been under estimates over the past few years. This has been fairly obvious in the provision of personal services, as we have had difficulty in recent years in carrying out the necessary work with the existing staff, the midwifery and health visiting staff being particularly under strain.

Statistics

The following statistics show at a glance the Birth Rate, Death Rate, Infant Mortality Rate etc., for 1961, compared with recent years :—

			1961	1960	1959	1958
Birth Rate	....	....	18.9	20.5	19.2	18.9
Death Rate	....	....	10.3	10.1	10.7	10.9
Infant Mortality Rate	....		17.3	20.8	23.3	25.4
Maternal Death Rate	....		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.07
Tuberculosis Death Rate			0.05	0.01	0.05	0.07
Cancer Death Rate	....		1.7	1.7	2.03	2.04

Comments

The birth rate of 18.9 is lower than that of last year, but is higher than the national average of 17.4.

The infant mortality rate of 17.3 is the lowest ever recorded in the County and is lower than the rate for the country as a whole, which is 21.4.

The death rate of 10.3 is slightly higher than the rate for 1960, but is also lower than the national rate of 12.0.

132 deaths were due to cancer, or nearly 17 per cent. of the total for the year. Accidents accounted for 45 deaths, 12 of these being due to motor vehicle accidents.

There were no deaths from accidental poisoning in the County in 1961, but an increasing number of children are being admitted to the local Hospital each year on account of swallowing poisons. During the past year some 11 children were in the Memorial Hospital, having swallowed what they should not. Seven swallowed paraffin or white spirit or turpentine, and four took large doses of aspirin.

Investigations have been carried out in the country on poisoning accidents in children. These showed that the most susceptible age was between $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, and that there was a marked seasonal variation, 57 per cent. of all cases occurring between May and September, possibly relating to the longer daylight hours. Baby aspirin tablets were the commonest cause of drug poisoning.

It is estimated that there are about 4,000 cases of poisoning in children discharged from hospitals in England and Wales annually. This does not include children treated by their own parents or as out-patients. It is also estimated that another 8,000 children per annum are seen by general practitioners, and not admitted to hospital.

I should like to make a plea to all parents and other adults about the dangers involved by leaving about, accessible to children, such things as pills, tablets, paraffin, and other substances of danger to children.

A Ministry of Health Advice Note sent to all local authorities in 1961 contains the following instructions :—

1. Keep medicines and tablets locked away or safely stored where children cannot reach them. This also applied to detergents, bleaches, cleaning agents, turpentine and paraffin, garden chemicals, etc.
2. Only give medicines where professionally prescribed and in the prescribed doses. The quantities of medicine prescribed for babies, and even quite big toddlers are usually extremely small, and a slightly larger dose or too frequent or too concentrated application of a medicament can be harmful or dangerous.
3. Check the label each time before use.
4. Flush away all unwanted medicines and tablets in the W.C. or a big drain, but not where children playing can get them. If thrown into dustbins or ashpits, they should be mixed away and not left accessible on top.
5. Never keep dangerous liquids in unlabelled or wrongly labelled containers. Even adults have died from mistakenly drinking poisonous contents from bottles with a soft drink label, or other inaccurate description of their contents.

There were a number of developments in the care of children, one of which was the testing of urine for phenylketonuria. If this condition is recognised in the early days of infancy, a few cases of severe mental retardation can be prevented. It is a very rare disease, estimated variously between one in 12,000 and one in 24,000 of all children born.

The testing is a very simple procedure and not very time consuming, but if once in three or four years we prevent a child from becoming a mental defective, the scheme is obviously worth while. So far no positive case in an infant has been found in this County by routine urine testing.

In the Autumn we had to prepare a scheme to ensure that children under the age of one had available to them a safe milk in the event of nuclear testing causing contamination of fresh liquid milk. Fortunately the scheme did not have to be put into operation.

Staff

There were no major changes in staff in 1961, although Dr. McKnight left to take up another appointment early in 1962. Again I express my thanks to my colleagues, Dr. Smeaton and Dr. McKnight for their unfailing help, and to the Chairman and members of the County Health Committee for their continued support.

Finally I should like to express my gratitude to the many voluntary bodies and individuals who assist in so many ways, and also to my own staff in the County Health Department, particularly Mr. John Dunford, the lay Administrative Officer.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE NISBET,

County Medical Officer.

August, 1962.

SECTION A

STATISTICS

Area of the Administrative County	53,464
Population (Census 1961)	74,442
„ 1961, Mid-year estimate	75,880
Rateable Value (April 1st, 1962)	£1,074,583. 0. 0.
Estimated Product of a penny rate	£4,379.

	<i>Soke of Peterborough</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
Live Births. Males 755, Females 684 Total	1,439	
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	18.9	17.4
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5.2	
Stillbirths. Males 14, Females 7. Total	21	
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	14.3	18.7
Total live and stillbirths	1,460	
Infant deaths (deaths under one year)	25	
Infant mortality rate :		
Total (per 1,000 live births)	17.3	21.4
Legitimate (per 1,000 legitimate live births)	16.8	
Illegitimate (per 1,000 illegitimate live births)	26.3	
Neonatal (first four weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 live births	11.1	15.5
Early Neonatal (under 1 week) mortality rate per 1,000 live births	9.7	
Perinatal (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined) mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	23.9	
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	0	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	0	0.33

Area

The area of the Administrative County remains the same, viz, 53,464 acres.

Population

			<i>Estimated mid-1961</i>
City of Peterborough	....	....	62,270
Peterborough Rural District	....	....	8,000
Barnack Rural District	....	....	5,610
Administrative County	....	....	75,880

The estimated population for mid-1960 was 70,040. It will be noted, therefore, that according to the Registrar-General's estimate, the population of the County has increased by 5,840. The main increase (5,290) is in the City of Peterborough. In mid-1960 the estimated population of the City was given as 56,980. However, the 1961 Census revealed a population of 62,031, and the Registrar-General has obviously taken this into account in his estimate of population in mid-1961.

Births

The number of live births assigned to the County was 1,439 (comprising 755 males and 684 females), as compared with 1,436 in 1960, thus giving a birth rate of 18.9 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 17.4 for England and Wales.

76 of the 1,439 children born in the County in 1961 were illegitimate (5.2 per cent).

The number of live births and birth rates in each area of the County were:-

<i>Area</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate</i>
City of Peterborough	....	637	564	1,201	19.2
Peterborough Rural District	....	78	71	149	18.6
Barnack Rural District	....	40	49	89	15.8
Administrative County	....	755	684	1,439	18.9

Stillbirths

The number of stillbirths registered was 21 (14 males and 7 females), compared with 32 in the previous year. The rate per 1,000 total births was 14.3, as compared with 21.1 in 1960, and with 18.7 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality

The number of infants who died before attaining their first birthday was 25 (15 males and 10 females) as compared with 30 in 1960. Of these there were two illegitimate deaths. The rate per 1,000 related live births was thus 17.3 compared with 21.4 for England and Wales.

The numbers and rates in each district of the Administrative County per 1,000 births were as follows :—

City of Peterborough	....	....	....	21	Rate	27.8
Barnack Rural District	....	....	....	0	„	0.0
Peterborough Rural District	....	....	....	4	„	26.8
Administrative County	....	....	....	25	„	17.3

It will be noted that our rate is 4.1 lower than the national average.

The following table shows the live birth rates and infant mortality rates in England and Wales for the years 1949-1961, and, for comparison, similar details for the Soke of Peterborough

Year	ENGLAND AND WALES		SOKE OF PETERBOROUGH	
	<i>Live Births per</i> 1,000 <i>population</i>	<i>Infant</i> <i>Mortality</i>	<i>Live</i> <i>Births</i>	<i>Infant</i> <i>Mortality</i>
1949	16.7	32	15.8	26
1950	15.8	29	14.9	20
1951	15.5	29	15.4	29
1952	15.3	27	15.3	20
1953	15.5	26	16.4	26
1954	15.2	25	15.8	22
1955	15.0	24	16.8	27
1956	15.7	23	17.6	29
1957	16.1	23	18.1	24
1958	16.4	22	18.9	25
1959	16.5	22	19.2	23
1960	18.1	22	20.5	20
1961	17.4	21.4	18.9	17.3

The causes of the 25 infant deaths (as recorded on the death certificates) were as follows :—

Congenital Malformations	....	....	....	8
Prematurity	....	....	....	6
Broncho-Pneumonia	....	....	....	4
Convulsions	....	....	....	1
Haemolytic Disease of the newborn	....	....	....	1
Accidental	....	....	....	1
Misadventure by burning	....	....	....	1
Bilateral haemorrhage of lungs	....	....	....	1
Cerebral haemorrhage	....	....	....	1
Respiratory distress (diabetic mother)	....	....	....	1

21 of the infants died in hospitals or maternity units attached to hospitals, and four died at home.

16 of the 25 deaths of infants occurred under one week of age, giving an early neo-natal mortality rate of 9.7, compared with 12.5 in 1960.

As in past years, prematurity and congenital malformations accounted for over half the infant deaths.

Maternal Mortality

I am pleased to report that for the third consecutive year no women died in the County from causes associated with childbirth. The maternal mortality rate for the country as a whole was 0.33 in 1961.

Deaths

The total number of deaths assigned to the County by the Registrar-General after adjusting for outward and inward transferable deaths, was 788, as compared with 708 in 1960. This gives a crude death-rate of 10.3 per 1,000 population. The death rate for England and Wales was 12.0 per 1,000 home population, compared with a rate of 15.7 in 1960.

419 of the 788 deaths in the Soke of Peterborough occurred in males, and 369 in females.

The following chief causes of death accounted for 81 % of the total deaths during the year, viz :—

Coronary disease, angina	....	....	....	140
Cancer	....	....	....	132
Vascular lesions	....	....	....	126
Other heart diseases	....	....	....	81
Bronchitis	....	....	....	34
Other circulatory diseases	....	....	....	37
Pneumonia	....	....	....	44
Accidents	....	....	....	45

The deaths classified in age periods (Registrar-General's figures) are :—

0 — 1 years	....	....	....	25
1 — 5 „	....	....	....	1
5 — 15 „	....	....	....	6
15 — 25 „	....	....	....	12
25 — 45 „	....	....	....	26
45 — 65 „	....	....	....	167
65 — 75 „	....	....	....	186
75 years and over	....	....	....	365
Total				<hr/> 788 <hr/>

It will be noted that 70 % of the deaths occurred in persons aged 65 years and over.

There were 132 deaths from cancer in the Soke of Peterborough in the year 1961, giving a death rate of 1.7 per 1,000 of the population—the same rate as in 1960. 29 of the deaths were due to malignant disease of the lung or bronchus, 27 being males and 2 females.

There were 12 deaths in females from carcinoma of the breast (two less than last year) and 20 deaths from malignant disease of the stomach, five less than last year.

I append a Table showing the causes of the 788 deaths in the County during the year 1961, the figures being those issued by the Registrar-General.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>All ages</i>
Tuberculosis Respiratory	4
Tuberculosis Other	—
Syphilitic Disease	1
Measles	—
Other infective and parasitic disease	3
Malignant Neoplasm....	20
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	29
Malignant neoplasm, breast	12
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	67
Leukaemia	4
Diabetes	7
Vascular lesions of nervous systems	126
Coronary disease, angina	140
Hypertension with heart disease	7
Other heart disease	81
Other circulatory disease	37
Influenza	1
Pneumonia	44
Bronchitis	34
Other disease of respiratory system	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	9
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	5
Nephritis and Nephrosis	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	11
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—
Congenital malformations	8
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	73
Motor vehicle accidents	12
All other accidents	33
Suicide	9
Homicide	1
	<hr/> 788 <hr/>

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Care of Mothers and Young Children

(Section 22)

A. Care of Mothers

The number of births notified in the area under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by transferred notifications was :—

		<i>Live births</i>	<i>Stillbirths</i>	<i>Total</i>
Domiciliary	3.6	533	7	540
Institutional	6.4	939	12	951
		1472	19	1491

Details of all notifications are transmitted promptly to the health visitors, who begin visiting after the tenth day.

Ante-natal clinics are held at " The Gables " Maternity Hospital, Peterborough for patients who have booked for admission to Maternity Units of the Regional Hospital Board.

No doctors' and ante-natal clinics are held under the auspices of the Local Health Authority ; all women are attended ante-natally by their own doctor.

Midwives Ante-Natal clinics are held at the Child Welfare Centre at the Town Hall and at the Centre at Dogsthorpe. Blood testing is not carried out at these clinics, but the majority of general practitioners make these tests, and arrangements are made for me to receive the results of all blood tests, except those carried out by practitioners in Stamford. All women have a general examination by their own doctor for fitness to receive gas and air analgesia.

During the year 1961, 798 women attended these clinics (597 being new cases) and the total attendances were 2,667 compared with 2,495 made by 649 women in 1960.

Mothercraft classes are held weekly at the Town Hall and Dogsthorpe Child Welfare Centres, and during 1961 306 mothers attended these classes, compared with 298 in 1960.

Invitations to attend the classes are sent by post from my office to all expectant mothers, including those who have booked for admission to the Maternity Units.

Relaxation courses for expectant mothers are also held at the Town Hall and Dogsthorpe clinics. During the year 1961 237 mothers attended these courses.

The Mothers' Clubs which meet monthly at the Town Hall and Dogsthorpe Centres, and the parents' Club associated with the Walton Centre continue to be well attended. They provide an excellent media for health education, and information about public health and home safety measures.

Maternity outfits are provided free of charge to those mothers who are confined in their own homes. The number of maternity outfits issued during the year was 530.

Each year three cups are presented at the Mothers' Club Annual Party, viz :—

- (1) Home Safety Cup for mothers. This is won by the mother who makes the best home safety suggestions, etc.
- (2) " Janet Nisbet " cup for fathers. Again for the best home made toy, or home safety device.
- (3) Knitting Cup—given for the best knitted garment.

Unmarried Mothers and Care of Illegitimate Children

Arrangements for the care of unmarried mothers are made in liaison with the Peterborough, Rutland and District Moral Welfare Committee, which is a voluntary organisation.

Only three applications were received in 1961 for admission of unmarried mothers to maternity homes at the expense of the Local Authority.

B. Care of Children

Child Welfare Centres

Eleven child welfare centres were maintained by the Local Health Authority during the year, situated as follows :—

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Town Hall, Peterborough | — Tuesday mornings and afternoons.
Wednesday afternoons. |
| (2) Mountsteven Avenue,
Walton, Peterborough | — Monday and Thursday afternoons. |
| (3) Lawn Avenue, Dogsthorpe
Peterborough | — Monday and Thursday afternoons. |
| (4) Barnack (Village Hall) | — Third Thursday afternoons each
month |
| (5) Castor (Village Hall) | — Second and Fourth Tuesday after-
noons each month |

(6) Eye (Methodist Church Schoolroom)	—	First and Third Monday afternoons each month
(7) Glinton (Village College)	—	First Thursday and Third Wednesday afternoons each month
(8) Helpston (School Canteen)	—	Fourth Wednesday afternoons each month
(9) Newborough (Forrester's Hall)	—	Second and fourth Wednesday afternoons each month
(10) Werrington (Parish Hall)	—	First and Third Friday afternoons each month.
(11) Wittering (Sick Quarters R.A.F. Station)	—	First and Third Wednesday afternoons each month

There are no voluntary child welfare centres in the County. Voluntary workers, however, assist at the Local Authority's Clinics, and their services are much appreciated.

Toddler's Clinics are held fortnightly at the Town Hall, Dogsthorpe, and Walton, appointments being sent from my office. A medical member of my staff always attends these clinics.

I append a statistical record of the work performed at the child welfare clinics during the year 1961.

Number of Centres provided at the end of the year	11
---	------	------	----

Number of children who first attended during the year and who, at their first attendance, were under 1 year of age	959
--	-----

Number of children who attended during the year and who were born in :	1961	....	....	....	....	822
	1960	....	....	....	....	705
	1959-56	....	....	....	....	961

Total number of children who attended during the year	2,488
---	------	-------

Number of attendances during the year made by children who at the date of attendance were :

(a) Under one year	9,382
(b) One but under two years	1,505
(c) Two but under five years	982

Total attendances during the year	11,869
-----------------------------------	--------

In 1960 a total of 11,944 attendances were made at our child welfare centres.

Premature Births

Babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth are classified as premature. Information on this point is supplied when the birth is notified.

101 premature live births were notified in the County during the year. 83 of these occurred in hospitals and 18 at home. In addition 12 premature still births were notified, 7 being born in hospitals and 5 at home.

A specially equipped premature baby cot is provided by the Local Health Authority, and is held at "The Gables," but is available to be taken to any address where it may be needed.

Day Nursery

One Day Nursery is maintained by the Local Health Authority. It is situated in Granville Street, Peterborough and has approved places for 45 children (15 aged under two years and 30 for children aged 2-5 years). The number of children on the register at the end of the year was 41, the average attendance during the year being 35.

Dental Care

The Local Health Authority is not responsible for the School Health Service and therefore does not employ a Dental Officer. However, arrangements have been made between the Peterborough Joint Education Board and the County Council whereby expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age treated by the School Dental Surgeon. The time allocated for this work is one half-day per week.

During 1961 14 expectant and nursing mothers were examined and treated and made dentally fit. 83 pre-school children were also examined. 55 of these were found to require treatment and all received the necessary attention.

MIDWIFERY

(Section 23)

Twenty-seven midwives were practising in the County at the end of the year, viz, seven as domiciliary midwives (all employed by the Local Health Authority), and 20 in institutions—employed by Hospital Management Committees or Boards of Governors under the National Health Service Act.

From 1953, the Ministry of Health asked for the information to be shown in the form below :—

	<i>Doctor not booked</i>	<i>Doctor present</i>	<i>Doctor booked Doctor not present</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Cases in Institutions</i>
Midwives employed by the Authority	—	65	470	535	
Midwives employed by Hospital Management Com- mittee	—	—	—	—	1247

The County Council midwives attended a total of 535 cases in 1961 (36 % of the total live and still births) compared with 555 cases (37 %) in 1960, and 502 (37 %) in 1959.

Analgesia

All the midwives employed by the Local Health Authority are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia, in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board. An apparatus is supplied to every midwife, and analgesia was administered during labour to 483 women (domiciliary confinements). Pethidine is also administered by the midwives in domiciliary practice, 328 such administrations being made in 1961.

HEALTH VISITING

(Section 24)

Seven full-time health visitors (including one tuberculosis health visitor) are employed by the Local Health Authority.

The following is a summary of visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year 1961 :—

(a) Home Visits

Number of children under 5 years of age visited during the				
year	....	....	....	4,207
Visits to expectant mothers	(a)	first visits	142	
	(b)	total visits		158
Children under 1 year of age	(a)	first visits	1,507	
	(b)	total visits		3,283

Children aged 1 and under 2 years	....	....	....	....	1,910
Children aged 2 but under 5 years	....	....	....	....	2,498
Other Cases : total visits	....	....	....	....	4,419
Total number of families or households visited by health visitors					9,454
Total visits paid to tuberculosis households	....	....	....		818

(b) **Clinics**

Total number of attendances made by health visitors at local authority clinic sessions during the year	....	....	....		791
Total number of attendances made by whole-time tuberculosis visitors at chest clinic sessions	....	....	....	....	177

In addition to the visits enumerated above, a total, of 14,01 visits were made when no one could be found at home, or a wrong address had been given, etc.

Liaison arrangements between General Practitioners and Hospital with Local Health Service

There are no arrangements in this area for health visitors to work in conjunction with a particular general medical practitioner or groups of practitioners. There is, however, good co-operation between the general practitioners who, if they consider necessary refer any special cases to the doctors concerned.

Arrangements are made for health visitors to follow up cases of persons discharged from hospitals when referred through the Hospital Almoner or the Sister of the Children's Ward.

All Health Visitors are supplied with telephones in their own homes, enabling them to be contacted individually by general practitioners even when off duty, or vice versa.

HOME NURSING

(Section 25)

In the City of Peterborough home nursing is undertaken by the Florence Saunders Nursing Association on an agency basis. Six whole-time nurses are employed, three of whom have cars for which they receive the appropriate allowance.

The rural areas of the County are covered by three full-time district nurses employed by the Local Health Authority. Each nurse in the rural area has a car. The nurses reside at Barnack, Castor, and Glington.

I append details of the work carried out by the district nurses during the year 1961 :—

					<i>No. of Cases</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>
Medical	....	....	....	....	630	21,238
Surgical	....	....	....	....	152	3,106
Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	8	457
Maternal Complications	....	....	....	....	9	50
Others	....	....	....	....	68	306
Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	....	4	13
Totals					871	25,170

In 1960 a total of 26,958 visits were made by the district nurses to 801 patients.

Of the total of 871 cases visited by the district nurses during the year 1961, 503 were patients who were aged 65 years or over at the time of the first visit.

No night service is provided but evening visits are made by the nurses where necessary.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

(Section 26)

In this County, vaccinations against smallpox and diphtheria immunisation are carried out by general practitioners, the fees for completed record cards being paid by the Local Health Authority.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis is now carried out by the general practitioners in the City (with two exceptions), the fees again being paid for completed record cards by the Local Authority. Most of the doctors practising in the rural areas prefer to leave poliomyelitis vaccination to the County Health medical staff.

Triple antigen (for immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus) is available (free of charge) to general practitioners, and tetanus vaccine—where patients have not previously received triple antigen—is also available, free of charge, upon application to the County Health Department.

I discovered during the year that one mother had had eight injections of poliomyelitis vaccine. Each time she became pregnant she re-registered, and as she received the vaccinations by various members of the medical staff, it was not until the eighth appearance that she was recognised as an 'old customer' when she confessed that she thought the more injections one had, the better.

Further information with regard to vaccination and immunisation is given under Section C of this Report (Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and Other Diseases).

AMBULANCE SERVICE

(Section 27)

The County Council is responsible under the National Health Service Act, 1946, for arranging the conveyance of sick and injured persons who are unfit to travel by ordinary means of transport, where the necessity arises.

The area covered by the County Ambulance Service is the whole County of the Soke of Peterborough, and certain adjoining areas, e.g. Old Fletton U.D., Norman Cross R.D., Conington Parish (Hunts.), and Crowland District (Holland).

The Ambulance Service, operating in combination with the Fire Brigade, continues to operate with efficiency.

Eighteen full-time ambulance driver/attendants are employed and the service is augmented by the Hospital Car Service (organised by the W.V.S.) and the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Peterborough.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the County Ambulance Service in 1961 :—

			<i>Total Patients</i>		<i>Total Miles</i>	
			1960	1961	1960	1961
Directly Provided Service						
Ambulances	....	....	7,619	9,207	58,895	63,031
Sitting case vehicles	....	....	9,187	9,829	62,129	65,827
Supplementary Services						
Hospital Car Service	....	....	1,422	1,484	61,204	63,467
Totals			18,228	20,520	182,228	192,325

It will be noted that there has again been an increase both in the number of patients conveyed and in the total miles travelled.

Training of Personnel

The Ambulance/Driver Attendants re-qualify in first aid every two years and, like most ambulance services in the country, a small amount of training is carried out during the very rare and short periods when there is a lull in their duties.

Civil Defence training has not yet been completed, but it is hoped to re-commence this when the annual leave period has been completed.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

(Section 28)

Tuberculosis

The Authority's responsibility is in relation to prevention, care and after-care treatment of tuberculosis being provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

One full-time Tuberculosis Health Visitor is employed by the County Council. She works in close co-operation with the Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Board, and in addition to assisting them at the Chest Clinic, she carries out home nursing of tuberculosis patients ; visits contacts to investigate home conditions and to persuade them to attend the Clinic for examination, and carries out Mantoux testing of children etc.

Beds, bedding, open-air shelters and nursing requisites are available for patients being nursed at home, although the need for open-air shelters has now practically ceased.

Tuberculous patients receive domestic help if required, and five such patients were assisted during the year. The district nurses also paid a total of 457 visits to eight tuberculosis patients during the year under review.

Free T.T. milk is provided for tuberculosis patients in necessitous cases.

The statistical tables and other information with regard to tuberculosis are given under Section C. of this Report.

Other Types of Illness

For the care and after-care of non-tuberculosis sick, patients discharged from hospitals, etc., any necessary nursing care and attention is provided through the Council's Home Nursing Service.

As with the tuberculous, domestic help is available, and 323 chronic sick persons received domestic help during the year.

Loan of Nursing Equipment

Nursing equipment and apparatus required by patients being nursed at home, such as wheel chairs, bed rests, bed pans, mackintosh sheeting, etc., is provided, on loan, by the Local Health Authority. In the summer months especially there is a great demand for wheel chairs, which we are usually able to meet, if not always from our own stock of nursing requisites, then through the good offices of Toc. H., who hold a number of invalid chairs for loan.

Problem Families

A monthly Liaison Meeting is held with the Superintendent Nursing Officer, Children's Officer, Moral Welfare Worker, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector, health visitors and others, at which the County Medical Officer is Chairman. At this meeting families are discussed and a line of action decided upon in individual cases.

One of the problems of recent years is debt incurred by housewives through hire purchase commitments. In one case the family was involved in payments of nearly £10 per week.

Some problems are caused by alcoholism or because the parents are mentally sub-normal.

Every effort is made by the Local Authority to prevent the break-up of families by the provision of domestic help in the case of mental and emotional instability on the part of the parents, by arranging the admission of younger children to a Day Nursery or Nursery School, by advice and help from health visitors, the Moral and Social Welfare Officers, and by help from the W.V.S. etc.

Health Education

The toll of death from lung cancer continues, and the evidence implicating smoking, especially cigarettes, strengthens. An intensive poster and leaflet campaign, warning the public, and school children in particular, of the dangers of smoking has continued.

The County Medical Officer, medical and lay members of his staff, health visitors and social welfare officers gave a considerable number of talks and lectures in the course of the year, and the local press has also published a number of "health" articles. By these means an endeavour is made to keep the public "health conscious."

Chiropody Service

The Local Health Authority has amended the Scheme under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, to provide a chiropody service, which is at present organised through the Peterborough Old People's Welfare Committee, which is a voluntary organisation.

At the beginning of 1962 the total number of cases in the City who were receiving treatment was 369. In addition 67 patients lived in the rural areas.

A charge of 2/6d. per treatment is made and the chiropodist attends either at the home of the patient, or the recipient can attend at one of the "sessional" places, the most popular being at the Day Centre in the Broadway Club, next to the City Public Library.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

(Section 29)

At the end of the year 49 part-time domestic helps were employed. They are under the supervision and direction of the Home Help Organiser (Mrs. Winham) and of a part-time Assistant Home Help Organiser (Mrs. Riddington).

Details of the cases assisted in the year under review are :—

(1) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	101
(2) Tuberculosis	5
(3) Chronic sick including aged and infirm	323
(4) Others	49
Total	478

As will be seen the majority of the cases assisted (nearly 70 %) were suffering from chronic sickness, including aged and infirm. In many of these instances the provision of domestic help saves admission to hospital.

When the service was transferred to the Local Health Authority from the City Council in July 1948, four part-time helps were employed, the workers being paid at the rate of 1/6d. per hour. The workers are now (1962) paid 3/7⁷/₈d. per hour ; the gross cost of the Service per working hour is 4/11³/₄d., and the maximum charge to users is 4/6d. per hour.

Although the cost of the service has been steadily increasing (three years ago the workers were paid 3/3d. per hour) if viewed from a wider economic angle, it is probably the cheapest and most effective form of help that can be provided for certain cases of chronic sickness.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

(Section 51)

Administration

The Mental Health Sub-Committee of the County Health Committee consists of eight members of the County Council and two co-opted members, and meets on the third Tuesday of each month. This Committee deals with all the matters relating to the care of the Mentally Disordered.

Staff

The County Medical Officer of Health is in charge and is Medical Advisor to the Committee. There is one Social Welfare Officer (who is also Senior Mental Welfare Officer) and one Assistant Mental Welfare Officer. The Chief Clerk, Public Health Department acts as Mental Welfare Officer in the absence of either of these Officers. The Junior Training Centre has a staff of one Supervisor, three Assistants and two Junior Trainees.

Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards

The high level of co-operation that existed between the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board medical and lay staff during the year 1960 was continued in 1961. Many inter-changes of ideas took place during the year and led to greater co-operation between all staff concerned.

Delegation of Duties

No duties in the Mental Health Service are delegated to voluntary organisations.

Mental Health Act, 1959

I went into great detail in my previous report on the effects of the new Mental Health Act, 1959 ; sufficient to say now that in this area the legislation has worked smoothly and no major difficulties have arisen in the working of the Act.

Prevention, Care and After-Care

1961 showed a slight increase in the number of admissions to mental hospitals. I feel that this increase is so slight that it is hardly worthy of comment, but it has stopped the downward trend of the past four years. The close liaison which has existed between the hospital and my social workers has continued throughout the year, and the free access to the Hospital has helped considerably with rehabilitation when the patients are ready for discharge. The reports which I receive from the Medical Superintendent on the patients treatment and progress whilst in Hospital continue to prove invaluable when follow-up visits are made.

Compulsory Admissions

In my Annual Report for 1960 I mentioned that I would feel the new legislation was being successfully carried out if I could report a considerable reduction in the number of compulsory removals. Whilst there was a very slight reduction this in no way comes up to my expectations, and it may well be that there is the hard core of mentally afflicted persons for whom there is no alternative but compulsory removal. However, it may be early to make such comparisons as only by re-education of the public can we hope to reduce the number of compulsory admissions. Time and hard work will remedy this feature.

Cases dealt with under the Mental Health Act during the year were as follows :—

<i>Mental Health Act 1959</i>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Informal Patients	....	....	....	....	49	76	125
Section 29	....	....	....	....	17	18	35
Section 25	....	....	....	....	1	1	2
					67	95	162

The age groups of these cases were as follows :-

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
16 — 20	....	....	....	....	2	3
21 — 30	....	....	....	....	14	14
31 — 40	....	....	....	....	15	23
41 — 50	....	....	....	....	17	18
51 — 60	....	....	....	....	11	11
61 — 70		....	....	....	3	16
70 +	....	....	....	....	5	10

The number of cases in Psychiatric Hospitals on 31st December, 1961 was as follows :—

<i>Name of Hospital</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
St. John's Hospital, Lincoln	....	1	5	6
Kingsway Hospital, Derby	....	—	1	1
Carlton Hayes Hospital, Leicester	....	1	1	2
The Towers Hospital, Leicester	....	—	3	3
Leavesden Hospital, Abbots Langley		1	—	1
Mapperley Hospital, Nottingham	....	—	1	1
Rauceby Hospital, Sleaford	....	66	86	152
		69	97	166

We often hear a great deal about the dangerous age for women and this is applied in many respects. On looking through my records I find that the dangerous age in the Mental Health sphere would appear to be between the ages of 31 and 40. On checking through the admissions to Mental Hospitals during the past five years the figures are as follows :—

<i>Females</i>	1956-1961
16 — 20	.... 26
21 — 30	.... 87
31 — 40	.... 131
41 — 50	.... 67
51 — 60	.... 83
61 — 70	.... 82
70 plus	.... 53

Can it be that most women in this age-group are quite lonely ; their husbands out at work all day and any children of the marriage at school and probably staying for school meals. The modern labour-saving devices leave the housewives with a great deal of time on their hands, time in which they have little or nothing to do but think about their many ailments. There is little wonder that many women seek employment outside of the home. Employment or some voluntary activity can play a part in preventing mental breakdown.

Mentally Sub-Normal

Ascertainment

In my capacity as Principal School Medical Officer or County Medical Officer I continue to see all mentally retarded children in the area. When difficulties or doubtful cases do arise the Consultant Child Psychiatrist has been very helpful and I am always grateful to him for his help and advice.

Training of the Mentally Sub-Normal

At the end of the year there were 49 mentally sub-normal children in attendance at the Junior Training Centre. Their behaviour over the year was excellent and the quiet atmosphere which is in evidence compares admirably with that of any school for normal children. Many people have commented on this point and have suggested that the behaviour of the mentally sub-normal children whilst in school is above that of children in ordinary schools.

One particularly interesting feature of the year was a visit by 35 of the mentally sub-normal children to a primary school to watch a performance of their nativity play. Again there were many comments on the excellent behaviour of the children. Three open days were held at the Centre, all of which were highly successful and numerous members of the public called in on each of the days. Also very successful was the Christmas play which again reached a particularly high standard in singing, dancing and play acting.

Numerous gifts were received during the year at the Centre and I think this reflects on the interest taken by the public in the training of the mentally sub-normal.

Fire drills were carried out at the Centre, when the Deputy Chief Fire Officer was present, and he was more than pleased to report that although it was the first time fire drill had been performed the Centre was cleared in two minutes.

Conferences

The National Association for Parents of Mentally Handicapped Children organised a one week conference in London and The Hague. I was nominated as delegate for the East Anglian area and attended for the week. I was more than impressed by the work being carried out in Holland, and the out-work I saw being done by the mentally sub-normal has given me many interesting ideas for the employment of the mentally sub-normal when our Adult Training Centre is built in Peterborough.

Staff Training

A two week course organised by the National Association for Mental Health was held at Hoddesdon, Herts, and was attended by my Assistant Mental Health Officer.

The Training Centre Supervisor also attended a one week course at Hoddesdon and two Assistants at the Centre attended a three day course organised by the Staffordshire County Council.

On the 31st December, 1961, the following mentally sub-normal persons were in Hospitals, on Leave and under Supervision :—

<i>In Hospitals</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Totals</i>
St. John's Hospital, Peterborough	14	—	14
Stoke Park Hospital, Nr. Bristol	5	4	9
Bradwell Grove Hospital, Nr. Burford	1	—	1
Little Plumstead Hospital, Nr. Norwich	23	11	34
Great Barr Hospital, Nr. Birmingham	1	—	1
Lisieux Hall, Nr. Chorley, Lancs.	1	—	1
Rampton Special Hospital	—	1	1
Risbridge Home, Haverhill	5	—	5
Royal Eastern Counties Hospital, Colchester	—	1	1
Nayland Hospital, Nayland, Colchester	—	12	12
Calderstone Hospital, Whalley, Blackburn	1	—	1
Riversfield Home, St. Neots.	1	—	1
	52	29	81
Mentally Sub-Normal on Leave	4	1	5
Mentally Sub-Normal under Supervision	39	41	80
Mentally Sub-Normal Awaiting Admission to Hospital	1	4	5

Accommodation Waiting List

No children on the Waiting List for mentally sub-normal were admitted to Hospitals during the year 1961. Two children were admitted to Hospitals for periods of Short Term Care, one of whom was retained on a permanent basis after investigation.

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service is available for the conveyance of patients to psychiatric hospitals, and their most helpful co-operation in all cases has been much appreciated.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

WELFARE SERVICES

Part III Accommodation

The County Council's functions under the National Assistance Act have been delegated to the Welfare Sub-Committee of the County Health Committee, and are under the direction of the County Medical Officer. Meetings of this Sub-Committee are held monthly.

Admissions to Part III Accommodation are sanctioned by a small Sub-Committee of the Welfare Sub-Committee. All applications are investigated, either by myself or the Social Welfare Officers.

Accommodation is provided at St. John's Close (147 beds), at Vawser Lodge (36 beds) and at Exeter Lodge (36 beds).

Blind

The County Council employs one full-time Home Teacher for the Blind (Miss D. E. Elkington). There is also a voluntary welfare committee.

The number of registered blind persons in the County at 31st December, 1961 was 138, viz, 62 males and 76 females. 101 of these were aged 65 years or over.

The following Table gives particulars of the blind and partially sighted (P/S) cases certified on Form B.D.8 in the County during 1961.

	<i>Causes of Disability</i>							
	<i>Cataract</i>		<i>Glaucoma</i>		<i>Retrolental Fibroplasia</i>		<i>Others</i>	
	<i>Blind</i>	<i>P/S</i>	<i>Blind</i>	<i>P/S</i>	<i>Blind</i>	<i>P/S</i>	<i>Blind</i>	<i>P/S</i>
(i) No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which section 8 of Form B.D.8. recommends:								
(a) No Treatment	2	1	1	—	—	—	6	2
(b) Treatment, medical surgical or optical	6	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
(ii) No. of cases at (b) above which, on follow up action, have received treatment	4	3	—	—	—	—	2	2

Deaf and Dumb

The Soke of Peterborough County Council makes a grant of £100 a year to the Northamptonshire and Rutland Mission to the Deaf, which continues to give valuable assistance—on an agency basis—to the welfare of the deaf and dumb in the County.

In the 33rd Annual Report for the year ended March 31st, 1962 the following remarks are made about Peterborough :

“ Peterborough, as is well known, runs, virtually, as a separate Mission, under the care of Mr. Stanley G. Gascoine our Hon. Welfare Officer, myself (Rev. Kenneth Earle) going to Peterborough only for church services, Mr. John Favell helping me in this.

Mr. Gascoine has done this work so very well for so many years that under the “ too many cooks spoil the broth ” principle, I have left it entirely in his hands. Circular 25/61, and the broadening of our scope to special service to a much larger number of deaf people, may alter all this. Mr. Gascoine is “ only human ” and cannot be expected to do the impossible !

Nothing definite can be said at this stage, and Mr. Gascoine and myself will work out our plans later on. In the meanwhile I should like to thank him for all his work in the past and for the co-operation he has so readily offered for the future.”

W.V.S. Work for the Welfare of the Elderly

The W.V.S. organised the delivery of meals-on-wheels to those elderly people who otherwise would not have a cooked meal. The names of those eligible are given by health visitors, Home Help Organiser, doctors, etc. A visit is then made to the old person to confirm the arrangements.

This Service has been functioning for over four years, and meals are now supplied to 60 persons twice weekly.

The meals are obtained from St. John's Close (Part III) at a cost of 1/6d. recipients paying 10d. and the Old People's Welfare Committee (a voluntary organisation) paying the balance of the cost for each two-course meal.

Early in 1962 two further schemes were started in the villages, viz, Eye and Ginton and Peakirk, 10 persons in each of these schemes being supplied are being supplied twice weekly. The meals for Eye are supplied by St. John's Close. Those for Ginton and Peakirk from Messrs. Towgood & Beckworth, Helpston at 1/10d. each. In order to meet the extra cost the charge to the recipient is now 1/- each meal.

The service has never failed to deliver meals on any day. In addition to the W.V.S. van which is used for this purpose, many ladies of the W.V.S. use their own private cars, without charge, in order to shorten the runs and ensure that the meals are delivered in a shorter period of time than would otherwise be possible.

SECTION C.**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES****1. Infectious Diseases**

1,864 cases of infectious disease were notified to the District Medical Officers in 1961, compared with 371 in 1960, 420 in 1959, 732 in 1958, and 2,064 in 1957.

The large increase is due to an epidemic of measles which occurred in the early part of the year.

Scarlet Fever

Eight cases were notified, four less than last year.

Whooping Cough

There were 36 notifications of this disease, compared with 47 in 1960.

Measles

1,723 cases of measles were notified, compared with 154 only in the previous year. The last epidemic of this disease occurred in 1957.

Pneumonia

26 cases were notified, the same number as in 1960.

Erysipelas

One case only was notified, which occurred in the City.

Puerperal Pyrexia

56 cases were notified during the year—all from the area of the City and occurring in maternity units attached to Hospitals.

Food Poisoning

I am pleased to say that two cases only of food poisoning were notified in 1961. In the previous year 22 cases were notified.

Tuberculosis

There was a great decrease in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified. 8 cases of respiratory and 3 of non-respiratory disease came to notice, compared with 37 cases of respiratory and 4 of non-respiratory disease notified in 1960.

Meningococcal Infection

One case was notified during the year.

Poliomyelitis

I am pleased to report that for the second consecutive year no cases of poliomyelitis occurred in the County.

Dysentery

No cases of this disease were notified. Last year there were 17 notifications.

The following Table shows the number of cases of each disease notified in the various sanitary districts :-

	<i>Peterboro'</i> <i>M.B.</i>	<i>Peterboro'</i> <i>R.D.</i>	<i>Barnack</i> <i>R.D.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Scarlet Fever	4	2	2	8
Whooping Cough	22	14	—	36
Measles	1420	164	139	1723
Pneumonia	21	—	5	26
Erysipelas	1	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	56	—	—	56
Food Poisoning	2	—	—	2
Tuberculosis : Respiratory	8	—	—	8
Other	2	1	—	3
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	1
Total	1537	181	146	1864

2. Vaccination and Immunisation

Diphtheria Immunisation

The following Table shows the number of children who had completed a course of immunisation against diphtheria during the year 1961.

<i>Children born in years</i>								<i>Total</i>
	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1952- 1956	1947- 1951	
No. of children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation in the Authority's areas	441	620	86	79	55	175	85	1541
No. of children who received a secondary (Reinforcing) injection	—	—	6	6	58	420	50	540

Whooping Cough Vaccination

Whooping cough vaccine—the combined triple diphtheria—pertussis-tetanus antigen are purchased by the Local Health Authority.

Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's area during the year ended 31.12.62 :

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Number vaccinated during year</i>			
1961	441
1960	620
1959	86
1958	79
1957	55
1952-1956	175
1947-1951	85
			Total	1,541

Smallpox Vaccination

The following Table shows the number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out during the year :—

<i>Age at date of Vaccination</i>	<i>Number of Persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated)</i>					Total
	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 or over</i>	
Number Vaccinated	623	54	69	34	33	813
Number Re-vaccinated	—	—	12	19	137	168

In 1960, 800 persons were vaccinated and 57 re-vaccinated in the County.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

I append details of poliomyelitis vaccinations carried out during the year 1961 :—

Children born in the years 1961-1943	....	....	1,365
Young Persons born in years 1933 to 1942	....	....	455
Persons born before 1933 who have not passed their 40th birthday			1,282
Others	....	....	18
		Total	3,120

Number of persons who had received three injections during year	....	....	....	....	....	2,675
Total who had received fourth injection during year 1961						5,683
Total number of persons who at 31.12.61 had received three injections (in 1961 or previously)				....	....	22,242

3. Tuberculosis

Notifications

During 1961, ten new cases of respiratory tuberculosis only were notified, and three of non-respiratory disease. This is the lowest number of notifications ever recorded in the County, the previous lowest number being in 1958 when 27 cases of respiratory tuberculosis came to notice.

Particulars of the new cases notified, in age periods, are as follows :—

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
10 — 25	1	—	—	—	1	—
20 — 25	2	—	—	—	2	—
25 — 35	1	1	—	1	1	2
35 — 45	2	—	—	1	2	1
45 — 55	3	—	—	1	3	1
Totals	9	1	—	3	9	4

The incidence of notifications of respiratory tuberculosis per 1000 of the population is 0.11, compared with 0.50 in 1960 ; 0.46 in 1959, and 0.39 in 1958.

It will be noted that nine of the ten new cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified in 1961 occurred in men.

Deaths

Four deaths were attributed to respiratory tuberculosis in the County in 1961 (3 males and 1 female). This gives a death rate of 0.05 per 1000 of the population, compared with less than 0.01 last year, 0.05 in 1959, and 0.07 in 1958.

No deaths were attributable to non-respiratory disease in 1961.

I append a Table in relation to tuberculosis of the lungs showing the number of notifications and deaths in the County during the last 20 years, and the incidence of deaths to new notifications :—

<i>Year</i>			<i>New Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Percentage of Deaths to Notifications</i>
1942	....	....	43	18	58.0
1943	....	....	42	21	50.0
1944	....	....	43	11	25.8
1945	....	....	46	20	43.4
1946	....	....	43	23	53.4
1947	....	....	58	15	25.8
1948	....	....	28	19	67.8
1949	....	....	42	10	23.8
1950	....	....	73	10	13.7
1951	....	....	58	14	24.3
1952	....	....	84	9	10.7
1953	....	....	53	4	7.5
1954	....	....	77	5	6.5
1955	....	....	33	10	30.3
1956	....	....	35	5	14.3
1957	....	....	29	2	6.9
1958	....	....	27	5	18.5
1959	....	....	31	4	12.9
1960	....	....	36	1	2.7
1961	....	....	10	4	40.0

Residential Accommodation

Admissions to Sanatoria are arranged by the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board, patients being usually admitted immediately their names are submitted to the Bed Finding Bureau.

During the year 17 patients from the Soke of Peterborough were admitted to Sanatoria, viz, nine males, seven females, and one child. At the beginning of the year 1961, nine patients were already in Sanatoria, so that a total of 26 patients received in-patient treatment in 1961, most being in the Bourne Chest Hospital.

At the end of the year 7 patients from the Soke were in Sanatoria.

Prevention of Tuberculosis

The Consultant Chest Physician (Dr. G. B. Royce) submits quarterly reports to the County Health Committee on the prevention of tuberculosis. A summary of Dr. Royce's reports shows that a total of 1,024 contacts were examined at the Chest Clinic during 1961, compared with 1,452 in the previous year. 160 of these were new cases, compared with 357 new cases in 1960.

B.C.G. Vaccination

B.C.G. vaccinations are carried out at the Chest Clinic, and during 1961 a total of 137 B.C.G. vaccinations were undertaken compared with 127 in 1960.

T.B. Skin Testing

At the end of the year I carried out a Pilot Scheme of skin testing in 11 schools in the County, with a total number of children on the roll of 4,514. The parents of 3,923 (or 86.8%) gave consent to the test being carried out. The results were negative in 3,727, positive in 168, and in 28 cases the children had left school before the readings could be made.

4. Venereal Diseases

The one Venereal Disease Clinic in the area is situated at the Out-Patient Department of the Peterborough Memorial Hospital.

The clinical work and administration is the responsibility of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board. Dr. N. A. Ross is the Consultant Venereologist in charge of the Centre, and clinics are held as follows, to which patients can be referred direct without appointments :

Mondays	4.30 to 6.30 p.m.	Males
Tuesdays	10.30 to 12.30 a.m.	Females & Children
Wednesdays	5.30 to 7 p.m.	Males
Thursdays	4.30 to 6.30 p.m.	Females

242 patients attended the Clinic for the first time during the year 1961, compared with 253 in 1960 ; 201 in 1959 ; 170 in 1958, and 173 in 1957.

These were classified as follows :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Syphilis	8	5	13
Gonorrhoea	35	25	60
Chancroid	5	—	5
Non-gonococcal urethritis	46	—	46
Other conditions requiring treatment	22	39	61
Conditions not requiring treatment	40	17	57
	156	86	242

The Consultant Venereologist reports that the incidence of venereal disease in teenagers in the Peterborough area has been increasing during the last few years. Of 92 cases of gonorrhoea occurring among females in 1960-61 attending the Peterborough V.D. Clinic as many as 43 were in the age group 16 to 20.

The 242 new patients came from the following areas :—

	<i>Syphilis</i>	<i>Gonorrhoea</i>	<i>Other Conditions</i>	<i>Total</i>
Soke of Peterborough	7	41	116	164
Huntingdonshire	2	4	12	18
Isle of Ely	2	8	13	23
Northamptonshire	1	4	15	20
Kesteven (Lincs.)	—	1	3	4
Other Areas	1	2	10	13
Totals	13	60	169	242

A total of 81 patients were under treatment or observation on January 1st, 1961 and 80 patients (65 males and 15 females) remained under treatment or observation on December 31st, 1961.

2,512 attendances were made by the patients attending the Clinic in 1961 compared with a total of 2,350 in 1960.

SECTION D.**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD****Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

I have to thank Mr. R. E. Kilsby the present Chief Inspector of Food and Drugs for the following report on the work carried out in the year 1961.

Mr. J. J. Cole, the County Inspector of Food and Drugs was responsible for this work during 1961. To the regret of all, Mr. Cole suffered a fatal illness in November, 1961.

In submitting, as his successor, this report of the work carried out under the Food and Drugs Act during the year 1961, I would like to add my tribute to the devoted service which Mr. Cole has rendered to the Council for so long.

During the year under review, 38 samples of foodstuffs were taken for analysis. Details are as follows :—

Milk :

14 samples of milk were obtained during the year. It is satisfactory to be able to report that all of these 14 samples were found to be of a proper standard. Milk sold as "Channel Island" was found to contain the necessary 4 % of milk fat.

Meat Products :

Meat products in their many forms are widely consumed throughout the county. Attention has been paid to the sampling of these during the past year ; it is hoped that the report of the Food Standards Committee will do something to remove the present confusion. There are considerable differences in the meat contents of various tins having the same description. The purchaser can have little prior knowledge of the amount of meat to be found in any particular tin, so that a product described as "Stewed Steak with Gravy" can contain anything between 55 % and 80 % of meat. It has been suggested to the Food Standards Committee that the public could be assisted if the minimum meat content of these products could be marked upon the outside of the container.

The public Analyst commented that a product described as "Sliced Braised Beef" which was said to contain "Selected Beef in a sauce containing natural beef gravy" contained only 66 % of meat. He was of the opinion that an article so described should contain at least 75 % of meat. He advised that in view of the present state of the law it would not be possible to take any action on this matter and expressed a hope that a Code of Practice on meat products would soon assist the position.

A product described as "Stewed Steak with Onions" contained only 51.6 % of meat and exception was taken to the description "STEWED STEAK with Onions." It was felt that the words "with onions" could be more prominent.

Frozen Beef Hamburgers were found to consist of 100 % meat and a sample of Porklets was found to contain 66 % of meat.

It is pleasing to report that all the samples of sausages contained a satisfactory amount of meat.

The articles sampled and analysed consisted of the following :—

<i>Article</i>	<i>No.</i>
Dairy Cream	1
Fish and Fish Products	4
Meat and Meat Products	12
Milk	14
Sauces	2
Sausages	5
	<hr/>
	38
	<hr/>

R. E. KILSBY,

Chief Inspector of Food and Drugs.

